



Hermosa Beach City Manager's Office City Council Meeting Recap 10.10.19

A brief recap of important items discussed during the October 10, 2019 City Council meeting is provided below:

October 10, 2019 ([Meeting Agenda](#))

Breast Cancer Awareness Presentation – breast cancer survivor Samantha Kuhr provided a presentation to Council on the importance of scheduling regular medical check-ups and screenings for early detection and her personal story of treatment and living with breast cancer since being diagnosed in 2015. In honor of National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, pink lights will be on display at Pier Plaza through the month of October.

Chamber of Commerce Donation Check Presentation to Hermosa Beach Non-Profits – [Hermosa Beach Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Bureau](#) President/CEO Maureen Hunt presented a \$25,000 check to be shared by ten Hermosa Beach non-profit groups with funds raised from [Fiesta Hermosa](#) festivals:

- [Arts Group of Hermosa Beach](#)
- Beach Cities Toy Drive
- [Hermosa Arts Foundation](#)
- [Hermosa Beach Kiwanis Club](#)
- [Hermosa Beach Sister City Association](#)
- [Hermosa Friends Foundation](#)
- [Leadership Hermosa](#)
- [Rotary Club of Hermosa Beach](#)
- [Sandpipers](#)
- [Woman's Club of Hermosa Beach](#)



City Manager Updates

City Manager Suja Lowenthal provided updates on the following items:

- **Update on City Recruitments and New Hires** – the City recently hired the following staff:
 - Assistant Engineer Michelle Licata – Public Works
 - Police Service Officer Maria Marquez-Villamontes

The following recruitments are currently in progress:

- Chief of Police – will be developing a recruitment profile with assistance from an executive search firm. The public is invited to a community meeting to discuss what you'd like to see



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in the next Chief of Police scheduled for Tuesday, October 29, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. in the Hermosa Valley School (1645 Valley Drive) multi-purpose room. An online survey will also be posted on the City's website soon.

- City Clerk – anticipate opening the position in the next week or so.
 - Deputy City Manager – position is posted on the City's [job opportunities page](#) – deadline to apply is November 1, 2019.
 - Director of Public Works – job offer signed, formal announcement to be made soon with expected start date of October 28, 2019.
 - Public Works Administrative Assistant & Public Works Inspector – interviews and hiring will take place once the Public Works Director is onboard.
- **Police Department Downtown Substation** – the Police substation near Parking Structure C (1301 Hermosa Avenue) is expected to be fully functional starting the week of October 14th, with final installation of equipment and telecommunications service.
 - **Electric Vehicle Charging Station Installations** – eight new charging stations have been installed on the roof Parking Structure C bringing the total available chargers to 11 with 42 publicly available charging ports citywide ([view interactive map of EV charger locations](#)). With the increased adoption of electric vehicles and popularity of charging stations, staff will be studying electricity costs to evaluate a transition from the current “free-to-charge” to “pay-for-access” stations as directed by Council. For more information, please check out the City's [electric vehicle charging station Information Item](#).
 - **INSB (Interoperability Network of the South Bay) Digital Radio System Launch** – on October 29, 2019, the Hermosa Beach Police Department will transition to an encrypted digital radio communications system along with six other INSB agencies (Cities of El Segundo, Gardena, Hawthorne, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach and Torrance). The new system will allow the City to communicate with every police and fire agency in Los Angeles County while also protecting confidential information of victims and witnesses. For more information, please view the City's [INSB Digital Radio System Information Item](#).

Short Term Vacation Rental Commercial Zone Pilot Program Ordinance – Council adopted amended Ordinance 19-1395 to establish a two-year pilot program for short term vacation rentals at non-conforming residential properties in commercial zoning districts, changing the 45 minute requirement to respond to complaints to requiring the owner or authorized agent to be onsite within 30 minutes to address complaints if requested by City staff.

Tree Ordinance Amendment – Council adopted Ordinance 19-1397 to amend [Hermosa Beach Municipal Code Chapter 12.36](#) related to parkway tree removals, replacements, permitting and associated sidewalk repairs.



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Public Hearing: 70 10th Street Motel Project – Council continued this item to the October 22, 2019 Council Meeting to review and reconsider Planning Commission denials of a Precise Development Plan and Parking Plan.

Special Event Fee Waiver Policy – Council approved a policy allowing the Parks, Recreation and Community Resources Advisory Commission to grant fee waivers for 50% of applicable special event fees up to \$2,500 per event (\$250 minimum award) starting in 2020 with no additional waivers to be granted for 2019 events. Direct costs including application, staff time, inspection and Police/Fire service fees may not be waived. Council set the total amount of fee waivers available per calendar year at \$20,000 (reviewable annually). The new policy does not apply to events with long-term agreements with the City and no fee waivers will be granted for peak season events occurring between Memorial Day and Labor Day. Grantees will be required to provide a post-event report and presentation to the Parks & Recreation Commission.

Los Angeles County Fire Department 2020 Ballot Measure Opt-In – Council approved the City of Hermosa Beach to opt in to the Los Angeles County Fire Department's 2020 ballot measure to vote on a special parcel tax to help fund necessary fire/paramedic staffing, facilities, vehicles, equipment and systems. The proposed special tax would be either \$0.06 or \$0.089 per square foot (100,000 square foot maximum) and would appear on either the March or November 2020 ballot. If approved, Los Angeles County Fire would provide a credit to the City of Hermosa Beach on its annual invoice for fire services including the ongoing Fire Station 100 renovation project (estimate a minimum annual credit of \$908,000). For more information or to submit public comment, visit [L.A. County Fire's webpage](https://www.fire.lacounty.gov/).

Sewer Improvements Engineering Design Services Agreement Amendment – Council approved a first amendment to the existing on-call design services agreement with PSOMAS in the amount of \$75,000 for a new total not to exceed amount of \$375,000 to complete design of sewer improvement CIP 421 which will cover rehab of 20 maintenance holes and replacement, lining, root removal, and repair of 11,000 linear feet of sewer mains at:

- Aviation Boulevard from Harper Avenue to PCH
- Manhattan Avenue from 14th Street to 19th Street
- Prospect Avenue from 13th Street to 19th Street

On-Call Architectural Services Agreement Awards – Council awarded three-year agreements to three architectural design firms Adrian Gaus Architects, Inc., TAG The Albert Group Architects, and West Group Designs for an amount not to exceed \$300,000 each with options to extend for two additional years. Design projects to be completed include:

- 14th Street Beach Restroom Renovations (CIP 692)
- Clark Building Renovations (CIP 689)
- Emergency Operations Center Renovations (CIP 684)
- Fort Lots-O-Fun Park Improvements (CIP 547)
- Parking Lot A Improvement (CIP 695)
- Police Station Basement Restroom Improvements (CIP 696)



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Miscellaneous Items & Other Matters:

- **Tobacco Sales Ban** – Councilmember Duclos and Mayor Armato requested a future agenda item to discuss consideration of a tobacco sales ban in Hermosa Beach similar to the Cities of Beverly Hills and Manhattan Beach.

Mayor Armato adjourned the meeting to Tuesday, October 22, 2019 – from 8 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., City Councilmembers and staff will be hosting a “**Hermosa Unplugged**” coffee & conversations event in the City Hall Courtyard (1315 Valley Drive) to encourage all to forgo social media for one day—all are welcome to attend!

THE NEXT REGULARLY SCHEDULED CITY COUNCIL MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE AT 7 P.M. ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22, 2019.

Questions or comments? Contact the Assistant to the City Manager Nico De Anda-Scaia Monday through Thursday, 7AM – 6PM at (310) 318-0201 or via email at ndeanda@hermosabch.org

To download a .pdf of previous City Council Meeting Recaps, please click on the links below:

- [City Council Meeting Recap: 9.24.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 9.10.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 8.27.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 7.23.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 7.09.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 6.11.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 5.28.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 5.14.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 4.23.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 4.09.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 3.26.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 3.12.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 2.26.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 2.12.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 1.22.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 1.15.19](#)
- [City Council Meeting Recap: 1.08.19](#)